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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Rumania

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SUBJECT Pharmaceuticals Used
 in Rumania

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DATE OF 25X1A

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1X

1. The pharmaceutical enterprises throughout Rumania have long ago been nationalized; their present tendency is to supply the public with standard type medicines which the State allotted them. Approximately four hundred such standard medicines are now being manufactured in Rumania; a large proportion of these have failed when used on a doctor's order which brought about charges of inefficiency on the part of the people against the pharmacists and the medical profession.
2. In the case of the Comarnic Ploesti pharmacy, the former owner was given employment as a stock clerk; younger and politically reliable pharmacy graduates were given the top positions and named to the directorships.
3. Rumanian Communist Party members, together with the general populace were united in their desire to buy American made penicillin. Penicillin made in the Soviet Union was available but the population, including Party members, rejected it.
4. Among the basic medicines which are lacking are the sulphamides, piperazine and amidogrin (possibly amigdaline). There follows a list of some pharmaceuticals and comments concerning them:

Theobromine 40 lei per gram officialy; no black market

Amidgyrin Only on official market
(possibly amigdalín)

Sulphanides Small amounts on official market

Piperazine 6 lei per gram, officially

Papaverin	200 lei officially when it can be found; non-existent at present
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Aureomycin	Not in existence
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Glycerin Not obtainable; when a supply exists, it is 2 lei
officially and is undistilled. It is stocked by the
Government

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Hydroxide of caustic soda	Not sold, nor can it be found. It is officially blocked.
Perhydrole	Used instead of hyperole; the former is weaker and it costs two lei per gram officially, when it can be found.
Iodine	Is not to be found; the old stocks are about used up.
Alcohol	Is in plentiful supply; it is sold at 400 lei per liter.
Liver extract	Is poorly prepared.
Calcium	Prepared in vials, poor quality.
Sugar	Is rationed through the pharmacies; in June 1950, the Floesti pharmacies were each given about 40 kilos; in August of the same year, this ration was withdrawn and sugar is not now available.

5. In November 1950 the pharmacies throughout Rumania were required to turn over to the Rumanian Government, for industrial use, their supplies of H₂SO₄ (sulphuric acid), HCl, HNO₃ and HCL₂ (sic). The last named is used as a disinfectant and in the preparation of mercurial salts. These items are not in existence for civilian use in Rumania today.
6. Packing material for any medicines is not obtainable at any pharmacy.
7. There are no bandages to be found in Rumania; similarly, there is no supply of adhesive tape. In August 1950, there were some paper bandages in use in Rumania, but by January of 1951, [REDACTED], even this was non-existent. Cotton is available in small quantities; no new supply is forthcoming. Formerly, the Soviet Union supplied cotton to Rumania but the present cotton imports for medical purposes, if there are any, go to the Rumanian Army for their exclusive use. 25X1X
8. Six hundred students of the University of Bucharest, members of the natural sciences course, were inoculated against tuberculosis in the routine medical examination at the start of the current school year. Informant states that it was common knowledge that all 600 students succumbed to tuberculosis or reacted with open sores on their arms because the serum used was faulty.
9. Another similar incident occurred during the autumn of 1950 when six prisoners died at the Cloruve (sic) prison because they were given barium instead of sulphate of barium in connection with some X-ray treatments.

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